

Appl. No. 10/725,657

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims to more clearly present the invention.

Claim 1 has been amended by the addition of a clause that specifies what these substituents are for the variables R_1 and R_5 . Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification on page 7, lines 5-17.

Claim 4 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Claims 7 and 8 have been merged into claim 7 and claim 8 has been canceled.

Claim 15 has been amended by deleting the phrase "or inhibiting" and adding the term "infection" after the term "HIV."

No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-15 as being indefinite in describing the subject matter of the invention. The Examiner refers to claim 1 and notes that while the term "substituted" is used, no specific moieties intended to effectuate the modification by "substitution" or attachment to the chemical core claimed are set forth.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to clearly set forth those specific moieties that are appropriate substituents for the R

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groups named. In view of this, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and removal of the rejection.

The Examiner notes that dependent claims 2-15 are also rejected for carrying over limitations that are generally substituted.

The amendments Applicants made to claim 1 take care of the substituent problem for claims 2-15. Thus, Applicants respectfully request the removal of this rejection as well.

The Examiner has rejected claim 15 for recitation of the phrase "inhibiting HIV." The Examiner notes that the term "inhibiting" can be interpreted in many ways and as a consequence, the claim is indefinite.

Applicants have deleted the phrase "or inhibiting" from claim 15 and have modified the claim to indicate that it is a method for treating HIV infection. Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and removal of the rejection.

In view of the above remarks, all of the claims remaining in the case are submitted as defining non-obvious, patentable subject matter.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), the Applicant respectfully petitions for a one (1) month extension of time for filing a response in connection with the present application and

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the required fee of \$110.00 is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Leonard R. Svensson (Reg. No. 30,330) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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